



ITS NEWS

Infant-Toddler Services

Kansas Department of Health
and Environment

APRIL, 2000

Spring Issue

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ITS NEWS is offered to persons interested in early intervention services for infants and toddlers with disabilities and their families. To submit articles or for information, write or call KDHE, Infant-Toddler Services, Landon State Office Building, 10th Floor, 900 SW Jackson, Topeka, KS 66612-1220; (785) 296-6135. Reprinting of any articles should credit KDHE.

I've Been Thinking.....

by Carolyn Nelson

Usually, when I have prefaced a "new idea" presentation with these words, those around me have looked skeptical, smiled politely and remained in the room, while keeping one hand on the doorknob! However, they did remain in the room and they listened to what I had to say. Dialogue developed, more ideas evolved, and the end result was a "new idea" that everyone could accept.

Consequently, I've been thinking.....

- ' about having a Coordinator's meeting two or three times a year;
- ' about revisiting the issue of the Infant-Toddler logo;
- ' about revising/updating our Procedure Manual; and
- ' about getting the data information system for Networks set up this year.

Your input will be needed as each of these "ideas" is addressed. Start thinking about and gathering information for them now so that positive and productive outcomes will develop for each of them.

We are currently determining each Network's funding allocation for fiscal year 2001, preparing the networks' 2001 grant application materials, formulating Kansas' Federal grant application, and establishing public hearing dates for Kansas' grant application process.

Infant-Toddler Services Spring Conference

by Joe Porting

The Spring Conference was held April 18, 2000, in Salina, Kansas, at the Salina Holidome. The topic of this conference was Providing Services for Young Children in Natural Environments and Least Restrictive Environments. Mary Beth Bruder, Professor of Pediatrics at the University of Connecticut, was the featured speaker for the morning keynote address.

Afternoon breakout session topics included:

- * Successful Transitions from a Natural Environment to a Least Restrictive Environment;
- * Providing Early Intervention and Special Education at Child Care and Preschool Settings;
- * Providing Assistive Technology as a Support in Natural/Least Restrictive Environments;
- * Identifying Natural Routines for Young Children;
- * Funding and Finance: A Look at the Basics;
- * Including Families in the Process;
- * Writing Collaborative Agreements; and
- * Addressing Health Needs of the Child

The conference was co-sponsored by KDHE and KSDE. Thanks to all who attended, presented and facilitated to make this conference such a huge success.

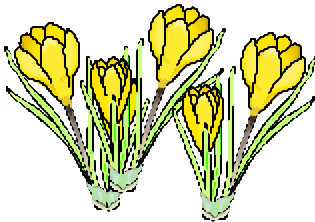
Early Intervention Network Recognized for Exemplary Practice in Evaluation

On March 3, 2000 at the Kansas Division for Early Childhood Conference in Wichita, the Douglas County Infant-Toddler Coordinating Council was recognized by the Kansas Department of Health and Environment Infant-Toddler Services for exemplary practices in the area of evaluation. This network has developed, and continues to refine, an evaluation process that is trans-disciplinary, that is multi-agency, and that occurs in a natural setting of the child.

The Douglas County ICC team makes a concerted effort to involve the family in the evaluation through the use of a family interest survey and through the sharing of information about their child. Immediately following the evaluation, the full team gathers, discusses, and develops a single report that is strengths based. The team states that this allows them to look at the "whole child" in determining the child's abilities, creates the opportunity for the family to be involved, and promotes learning for the team members as they interact with each other.

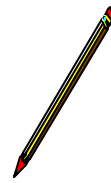
This is the first year that KDHE Infant-Toddler Services has recognized an early intervention Network for practices that are exemplary. All thirty-seven Networks had the opportunity to submit an application outlining an exemplary practice in eligibility, evaluation, or assessment that has been incorporated into their early intervention services, that is progressive, and that has gone beyond the requirements of IDEA. Applications received were reviewed by professionals from early intervention.

Congratulations to the Douglas County Infant-Toddler Coordinating Council for receiving this recognition this year. The contact person for this Network is Dena Bracciano, PO Box 574, Lawrence, KS, 66044; (785) 832-5098, ext. 209.



Paula Diver is the new ECSE Infant Toddler teacher for Sumner County Infant Toddler Services at Bright Futures/Futures Unlimited, Inc. Paula is replacing Angie Lister-Hilt who left that position to become a full-time mom!

Community Early Intervention Network Changes



This section of *ITS NEWS* is intended to help keep readers abreast of Network changes that come to the attention of our office. Please contact Diane Alexander, (785) 296-6135, to report changes as they occur.

Jessica Griffith is the new Part C contact for **Coffey County ICC**. Ann Fritz is the new director for Coffey County Special Education Coop.

Dena Bracciano, Douglas County Infant-Toddler Coordinating Council has a **new telephone number: (785) 832-5098 x 209**.

Zena Kennedy, Northeast Kansas ICC, has new e-mail: nek-its@jbntelco.com.

Lona Foust, Infant Toddler Services Network of Riley County, now has e-mail: LONAF@manhattan.k12.ks.us

Infant-Toddler Services of Johnson County - correct email address is: itsjc@oz.sunflower.org

Jim Dauber, First Step, Ottawa-Wellsville, has a new e-mail address: jim.dauber@greenbush.org

July Regional Meetings

Autism services and treatment strategies will be the main topic of the July regional meetings. Dr. Matthew Reese and Deborah Daniels will present on the latest information with regard to providing services to children with autism under age 3. Their presentation will be followed by a discussion regarding how Networks put services together to meet the needs of these children.

The regional meetings start at 9:30 a.m. and finish at 2:00 p.m. and are scheduled to take place July 13th in Holton, July 19th in McPherson, and July 20th in Garden City. Watch for a flyer with additional details regarding this training opportunity.



Russell Child Development Center's Rededication Ceremony Highlights 35 Years of Service to Southwest Kansas

A rededication ceremony for Russell Child Development Center (RCDC) was held Saturday, March 11 from 9 to 11 a.m. at 714 Ballinger in Garden City. Congressman Jerry Moran was the featured speaker. Sharon Hixson, Director, and Renee Ostrom, President of the Board, welcomed those in attendance and provided information about RCDC.

The Ambassadors from the Chamber of Commerce helped with a non-traditional ribbon cutting. They used a paper chain, which was made by the Tuesday morning playgroup, and children held the ends of the paper chain for the cutting.

A new logo for RCDC was designed to emphasize the importance of the family in "Helping to Create a Child's Future".



Highlights from the history of Russell Child Development Center:

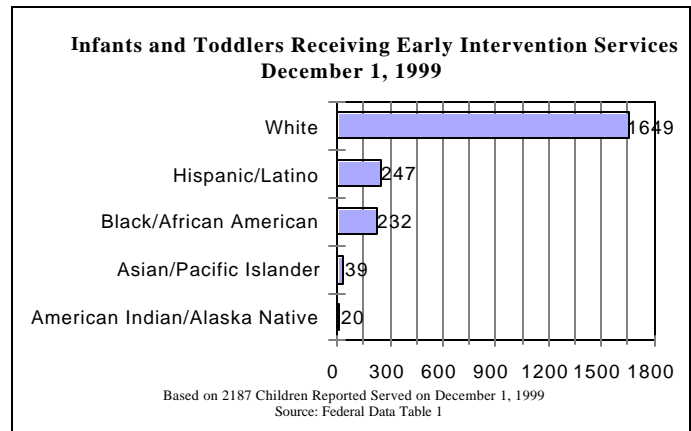
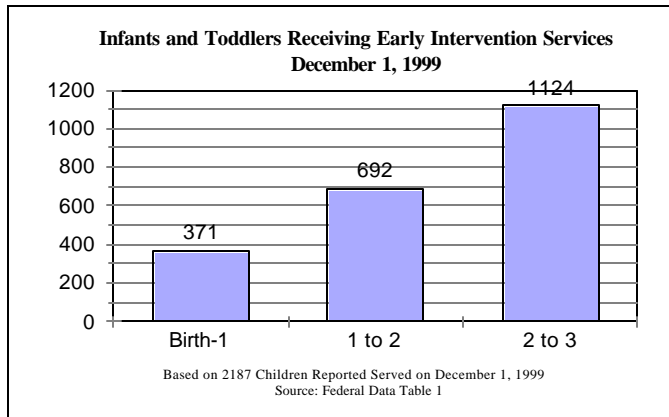
- 1965 - First service by Garden City ARC. Iva Whiteley was first teacher in Optimist Building, 1001 Bancroft.
- 1966 - Move to 310 N Ninth Street. Name changed to Russell Day Care.
- 1976 - Move to 621 Garden City Avenue. Name changed to Russell CHILD DEVELOPMENT Center.
- 1980-81 - New facility at 714 Ballinger with local donations and community development funds.
- 1986-87 - Addition (basement and classrooms) to 714 Ballinger, with funds from private donations.
- 1991-92 - School Year: Public schools are now responsible for children from three years to school age that have need for special education.
- 1996-97 - First year that children from 3-5 years of age were not served in the "Russell" building.
- 1999-2000 - Addition to 714 Ballinger, adding 3 staff/parent conference rooms, utility room, handicapped accessible bathroom. Remodeling brought 11 staff members upstairs and improved handicapped accessibility of building.



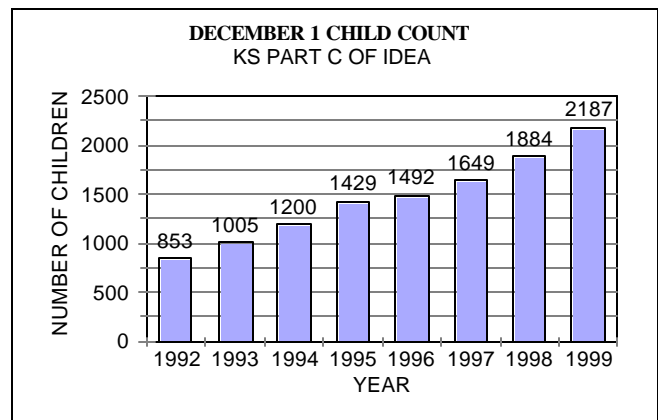
Congressman Jerry Moran with (l to r) Sarah, Caylea, & Mackenzie.

Federal Data Tables - December 1, 1999

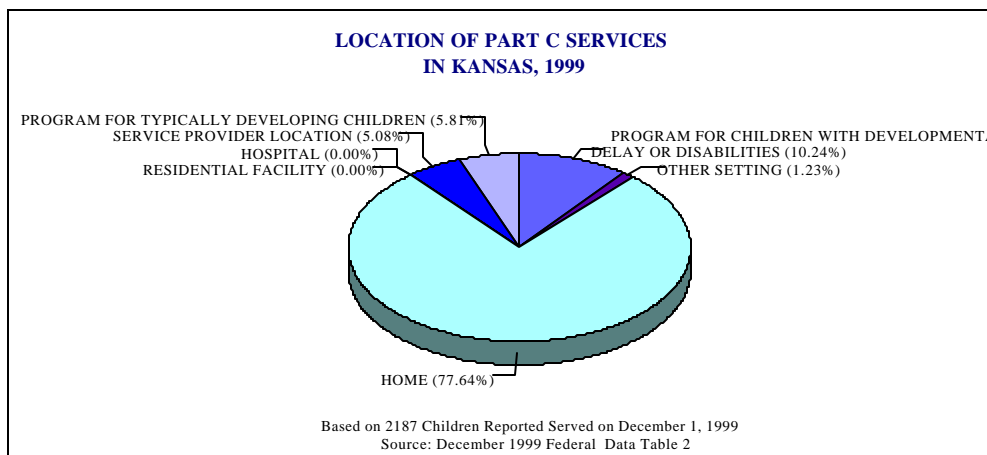
Infant-Toddler Networks annually report the number of children served in their area on December 1st for required federal data reporting. This provides a “snap shot” picture of the number of children receiving services at a given time in the state. The following two graphs indicate infants and toddlers from birth through age 2, by age and ethnicity, receiving early intervention services according to an Individualized Family Service Plan (IFSP) on December 1, 1999.



This graph details the increase in the December 1 child count population served in Kansas since statewide implementation of Part C in 1992.

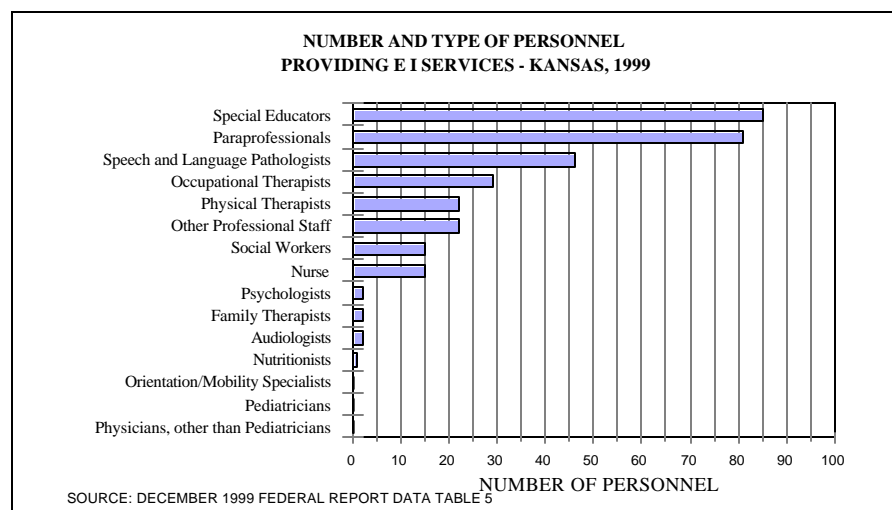
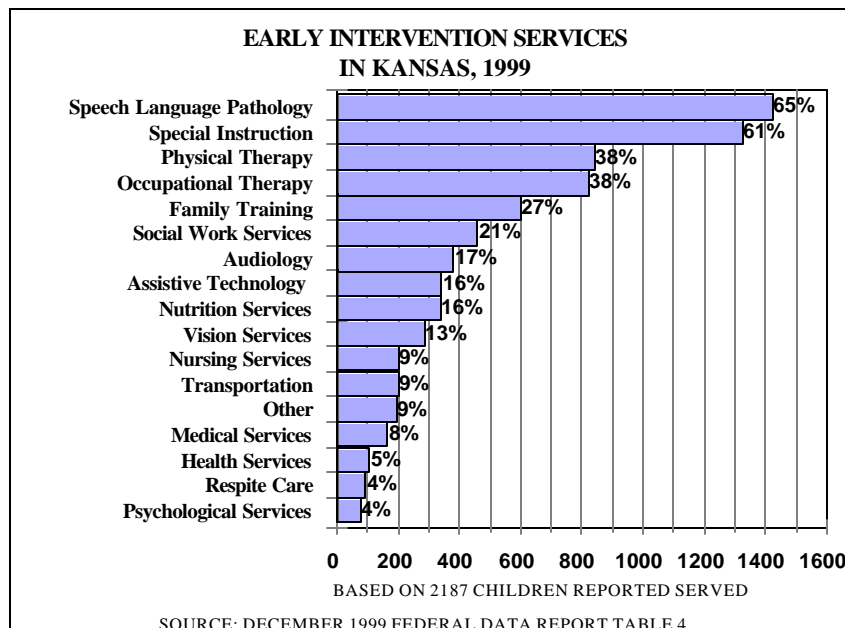


This graph indicates the early intervention locations where infants, toddlers, or families received Part C services according to an IFSP on December 1, 1999. Children are counted according to the type of service being received at a location, not the type of location.

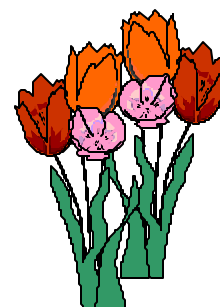


Services and supports are provided in “natural” settings which mean places and situations where children without disabilities live, play and grow. This “natural” environment maximizes the family and other caregivers as potential resources and encourages shared responsibility. By participating in the intervention process, families are encouraged to learn the skills and techniques necessary to assist their children in their development.

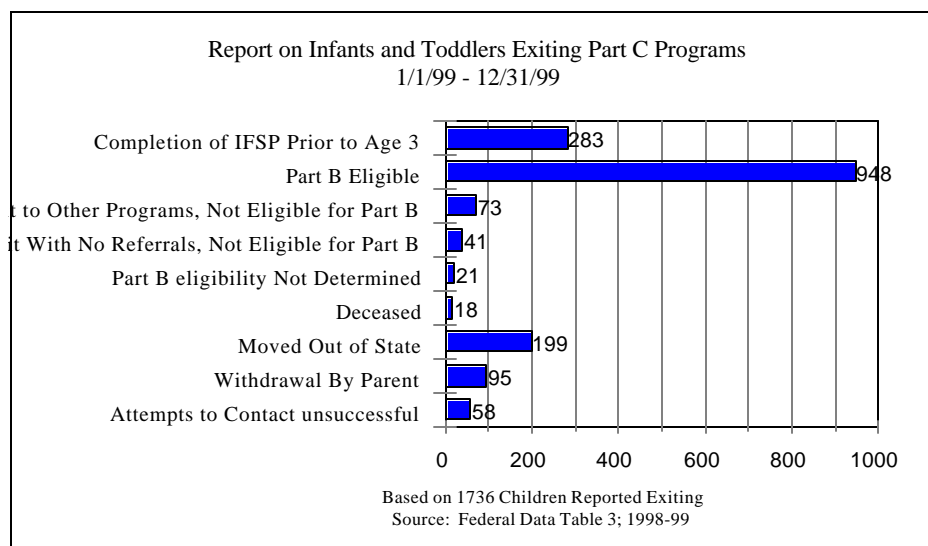
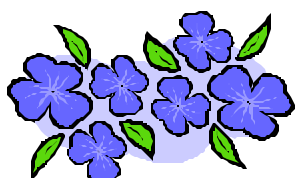
The percentages of services provided to infants and toddlers according to their IFSP in effect on December 1, are indicated on this graph. Many children served have developmental delays in more than one area, and therefore, may receive multiple services.



The number and type of full-time equivalent personnel, employed and contracted, providing early intervention services to infants and toddlers reported being served on December 1, 1999 are indicated on this graph.



For the first time, Networks were required to collect and report transition data for the 12-month reporting period of January 1 through December 31, 1999. Data are reported in nine categories, under two broad domains: Program Completion and Other Exit Reasons.



STUDY FINDS MOTHERS' MISUNDERSTANDING OF INFANT NUTRITION

Source: Public Health Nutritionist Listserv. Carolyn Gleason, Nutritional Consultant for the HRSA office in Seattle, WA.

A study in the Journal of Pediatric Health Care examines mothers' feeding choices and nutritional knowledge and finds that "the lack of knowledge demonstrated by this sample of mothers is of great concern. It is evident that parents need more information about basic nutritional information." Researchers surveyed 490 mothers or mothers-to-be on nutritional information. Between 34% and 61% of the mothers responded correctly to each separate question.

Respondents were asked to indicate whether they agreed or disagreed with the following seven statements:

- % Cow's milk can be introduced into a baby's diet when the baby begins to take solids;
- % Fruit juice provides nutritional benefits unavailable in infant formula or breast milk;
- % Fruit juice is a necessary part of a baby's diet;
- % If a breastfeeding mother has a low milk supply, she should switch to formula feeding;
- % The best time to wean babies from the breast is when they start to develop teeth;
- % Low-iron formula causes less fussiness and constipation in babies; and
- % Milk allergy is the most common cause of frequent spitting up in infancy.

According to the article, "disagree" is the correct answer for all the questions. Results indicate that:

1. 19% of respondents thought that cow's milk can be introduced when solid food is introduced, and 21% did not know or did not answer the question. [Cow's milk should not be introduced during the first year of life, because introducing it earlier puts the infant at risk for iron-deficiency anemia.]
- 2/3. 17% of respondents thought fruit juice provides nutritional benefits unavailable in infant formula or breast milk, and 35% thought that fruit juice is an important part of a baby's diet. [Infants do not need fruit juice, and infants younger than six months of age should not be fed juice, as it can take the place of other foods or drinks that provide important nutrients.]
4. 37% of respondents thought that if a breastfeeding mother has a low milk supply, she should switch to formula feeding. [When exclusive breastfeeding is not possible, partial breastfeeding, supplemented with iron-fortified infant formula, is still preferable to premature weaning.]
5. 30% of respondents thought that the best time to wean babies from the breast is when they start to develop teeth. [Parents need to know that there is no need to wean babies when teeth erupt.]

6. 26% of respondents thought that low-iron formula causes less fussiness and constipation in babies, and 39% did not know or did not answer the question, indicating that many mothers do not know the correct answer to this question. [Iron-fortified infant formula is the only appropriate substitute for breast milk during the first year of life.]
7. 29% of respondents believed the most common cause of frequent spitting up is a milk allergy, and 37% did not know or did not answer the question. [Unless certain other symptoms are present, health care providers can reassure parents that spitting up is normal and that most babies outgrow it by about age one.]

The article concludes that "pediatric providers must continually work to increase parental understanding of basic infant nutrition," and that "to help parents understand and learn, the information will need to be presented again and again in different ways."

Hobbie, Cynthia, Susan Baker, and Cynthia Bayerl. "Parental Understanding of Basic Infant Nutrition: Misinformed Feeding Choices." *Journal of Pediatric Health Care*. 2000; 14(1): 26-31.

Resources

State Infant-Toddler Services now has in its loan/resource library two videos from the Connecticut Birth to Three System:

Providing Hopes, Realizing Dreams. 1999. This 13 minute video will acquaint you with all aspects of the Connecticut Birth to Three System, from the first point of contact through the evaluation, program planning, and service delivery phases. You'll be introduced to three families who will share their experiences and describe what Birth to Three supports and services have meant to their family.

Transition to School Services. 1999. This 13 minute video informs about how to take the next step to ensure that, if the child needs special services, he or she continues to receive them after the age of three.

To check out these videos contact

Nancy Carlson, (785) 296-6761, fax:(785) 296-8626;
e:mail: ncarlson@kdhe.state.ks.us

There are many pamphlets, videos and other resources about child development, child health, and child nutrition at the Kansas Public Health and Environmental Information Library (KPHEIL). You can view the catalog on line at <http://www.kdhe.state.ks.us/library> or call (785) 532-5120 to order a catalog.

School Based Head Start Agencies May Now Enroll With Medicaid

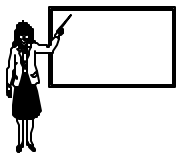
by Karl Hockenbarger, SRS

SRS has modified its policy which prohibited school-based Head Start agencies from enrolling as Medicaid providers. Previously the school could only enroll as a local education agency (LEA), leaving the school-based Head Start agency without access to Medicaid reimbursement. Effective February 1, 2000 Head Start agencies will be able to enroll as Medicaid providers regardless of whether the Head Start is affiliated with a school or other entity. This policy change gives school-based Head Start programs the same access to Medicaid reimbursement for attendant care, audiometric tests, counseling, dental, otorhinolaryngologic services, physical medicine, and skilled nursing services as other Head Start programs already have.

The Provider Enrollment Unit at SRS' fiscal agent, Blue Cross Blue Shield of Kansas, should be contacted to obtain an enrollment packet or additional information on becoming a Medicaid provider. The Provider Enrollment telephone number is (785) 291-4025.

There is possibility of children with an individualized educational program (IEP) being enrolled in Head Start, with the potential for the school district to claim both the bundled rate and the individual services delivered through Head Start. Edits will be implemented to prevent these duplicate payments. The LEA bundled rate claim will be paid, not the Head Start claim, if duplicate bills are received. Head Start services which are not included in the bundled rate (dietitian, laboratory, and dental) will be reimbursed in addition to the bundled rate.

Further detail regarding this policy change will be sent to enrolled LEA and Head Start providers in March.



Trainings/Conferences

Families Together, Inc. Family Enrichment Weekend. April 28-29, Lawrence. Contact: Bonni Pennie or Lesli Girard, Families Together, Inc., at (800) 264-6343 (for parents) or (785) 233-4777.

Family Health: Collaboration in a Changing World. April 26-28. Broadview Hotel, 400 West Douglas, Wichita. Contact: Mae Thomas, Training Manager, Development Systems, Inc. (816) 561-5050.

Transitioning into Developmentally Appropriate Practices (TDAP) Conference. April 27-28. Wichita Airport Hilton, Wichita. Contact: Misty Goosen; (785) 864-0725.

Planning for the Future, the 19th National Conference on the Training and Employment of Paraprofessionals in Education, Rehabilitation, and Related Services. April 27-29. Double Tree Hotel, Lloyd Center, Portland, OR. Contact: The

NRC for Paraprofessionals, Utah State University, 6526 Old Main Hill, Logan, UT 84322-6526. Phone: (435) 797-7272.

Mental Health & Transcultural Issues in the Perinatal Period and Early Childhood. May 5-6. Menninger Clinic, Seeley Conference Center, 5800 SW 6th Street, Topeka. Contact: Menninger Continuing Education, (785) 350-5000 or (800) 228-7377.

ACCK Summer Seminar in Early Intervention 2000: Nurturing Kids Who Care: Promoting the Well-being of Children and Families in Supportive Communities. June 5-7; 9:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. Bethany College, Lindsborg.

June 5th - "Building Supportive Communities to Promote Infant Mental Health" - Edward Feinberg, PhD

June 6th - "promoting Family/Infant Attachment to Support Infant Mental Health and Brain Development" - Edward L. Hoffman, MD

June 7th - "Developing Healthy Relationships Through Play" - Richard Gaskill, EdD

Contact: Julie Willems, ACCK, 210 S Main Street, McPherson KS 67460; (316) 241-5150 x111, FAX: (316) 241-5153. Email: ajuliew@acck.edu

Young Children Living in the Midst of Abuse and Neglect. June 9-10. National Teachers Hall of Fame, 1320 C of E Drive, Emporia. Contact: Dr. Carol Marshall, (316) 341-5759 or e:mail at marshalc@emporia.edu. For preregistration information call: (316) 341-5385 or (877) 332-4249 (toll free)

KITS Seventh Annual Summer Institute 2000: Brain Research and its Implications for Intervention in Natural & Least Restrictive Settings. June 20-23. Wichita State University. Contact Misty Goosen, KITS, 1052 Dole, Lawrence, KS 66045; (785) 864-0725; fax: (785) 864-5323.

Deafblind Summer Seminars. Seminar I - June 22-24; Seminar II - July 20-22. University of Kansas Edwards Campus, Regents Center, Overland Park. Contact: Judy Conley, (913) 588-5750 or jconley@kumc.edu

Infant-Toddler Services Summer Regional Meetings. July 13- Holton, July 19 - McPherson, July 20 - Garden City. Flyer to be mailed at a later date.